

El Rancho Verde MAC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Council Members Present

Joe Ayala Bedalia Valdes David Maskell Lynn Boshart Lacey Kendall

Council Member Absent

Robb Bourland

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

MAC Member Bedalia Valdes motioned to approve the December Minutes. MAC Member Joe Ayala seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Public Comment

Allen Dyer announced some good news. He said Congressman Baca had secured a grant to get the Perchlorate cleaned-up. He also stated that Supervisor Gonzales has worked very hard to get the issue resolved and he thanked her. It is going to take \$24 to \$40 million dollars to clean it up. Bill Dass added that they are working with the water company on solving the problem.

Jesse Valenzuela of Congressman Baca's Office announced that the Congressman introduced legislation for Social Security for the spouses of those who have passed. They will increase the benefits received on the month they are due. It took place today. Next, he announced that on April 9th the teen center in Colton he hosted the Art competition and the high school students got a chance to display their art. This year's winners are Natalie Valley from Rialto High, Anna Serrano Monte of Arroyo Valley High School.

Jason Buckner of Assembly Member Carter's Office announced that Assembly Member Carter will be hosting a Veteran's Recognition event. He brought applications for nominations. He also brought a newsletter with current updates.

Staff Reports

Field Representative Michael Townsend

Mr. Townsend introduced Marshall Riley of Supervisor Biane's Office who attended the meeting.

Sheriff's Department

Sergeant Lieutenant Tomlin reported that a call came in regarding a man with a gun. He happened to be in the area right outside of the Golf Club and they did get the suspect. She next announced that Sergeant Dan Finneran was transferred to the Highland Station and the new Sergeant is Maggie Finneran. Sergeant Finneran said she was happy to be assigned to the area. She wanted to alert the residents regarding something that has come to the attention of law enforcement. Apparently, school-aged youth have been playing a game in which they take a car and move it a couple of blocks and then take another and do the same thing.

Special Districts

Tim Millington announced that he brought copies of the budget for the MAC to review. He stated that they generate \$67,000 annually. He stated that the major expenses are the landscape and water. The low bidder for the landscape contract came in at \$25,900 and is good for 3 years with the option to extend the contract for an additional 3 yrs.

New Business Kathleen Rolling McDonald, Executive Officer of LAFCO

Kathleen Rolling McDonald brought a power point presentation outlining the purpose of LAFCO. She had copies available for the MAC members and for the audience. She stated that it is a State-mandated commission and is made up of a 6 member body. It encourages orderly growth, promotes

logical and orderly service boundaries for cities and counties. She said that in regards to the planning function, LAFCO properly establishes a sphere of influence and regarding the regulatory aspects, it evaluates the level of protest with regards to detaching or removing boundaries. On her power point presentation she had the proposed annexation areas for the Lytle Creek Project. She stated that LAFCO takes into consideration the residents, and the city is currently preparing their specific plan and the general plan amendment but have not submitted an application yet. The general plan amendment and Specific Plan overlay will have to be approved by the city first before LAFCO can consider it.

MAC Chair Lynn Boshart stated that she would like to open for discussion the EIR. One resident stated that he would like the MAC to be the voice of the people in attendance of the MAC meeting and let them know that the people of El Rancho Verde oppose the Lytle Creek Development. MAC member Lacey Kendall suggested the residents write letters giving their personal point of view regarding the project and submit them to the planning commission no later than Thursday, April 15, 2010. She also stated that neighboring community residents can also write letters. Some residents in attendance stated that if the Lytle Creek Development was to move forward, they would lose their equestrian lifestyle and many of the residents own horses. MAC member Dave Maskell suggested writing a letter opposing the project right away. MAC Members Bedalia Valdez and Lacey Kendall also agreed to write the letter. Member Lacey Kendall stated that the MAC is an advisory council who can convey information to the office of Supervisor Gonzales expressing the desires of the residents and that is all they can do. MAC member Joe Ayala stated that sometimes people need to learn to compromise. He pointed out that the owners need to have revenue coming in to offset the expenses of the golf course. He stated that the golf course is not self-sustaining.

Mr. Jan Dabney of Lytle Development stated that he has been involved with the project and he stated that when the residents reasonably discuss with the owners their feelings on the proposed project, the owners will be likely to listen. He said that if they are being verbally attacked by the residents they will probably not listen. He stated that they are a long way into the process and have spent a long time trying to do the right thing. He also stated that the owners have a right to recuperate their losses. He suggested that the residents work with the developer rather than against them.

Council Member Comments

Lynn Boshart stated that a letter disapproving the plan will be drafted. She stated that she appreciated everyone who attended; that she hopes the developer is open to discussion and; she hopes that they will reconsider. She encouraged all the residents to write letters and reminded the residents that the deadline is the 15th of April. She also thanked everyone for attending.

Joe Ayala stated that Mr. Dabney is representing the property owners and that as their private property, they have plans for it. He stated that he feels that they can get better results if they negotiate with diplomacy. He stated that they have the opportunity to write letters. He stated that it is going to be a process and feels that the residents and the developer will gain more if they have respect for one another. He stressed the importance of dialogue and he reminded the residents that the owners paid \$25 million for the property and they have the right to recuperate it.

Public Comment

An almost unanimous vote was taken to write the letter in opposition to the development with 2 residents abstaining.

Member Lacey Kendall motioned to adjourn the meeting and Member Joe Ayala seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm.
The next scheduled meeting is on June 8, 2010 at 7:00pm.